

HIS EXCELLENCY AFLOAT

HIS TRIP FROM THE OLD WORLD TO THE NEW ON A YACHTFUL

Taken Aboard with Becoming Ceremony and Observed with Delight and Respect by the Viceroy, His Excellency and His Intervent, the Viceroy's Family and the Viceroy's Staff.

FROM THE EVENING SUN.

AN EVENING SUN correspondent, who was on the St. Louis with Li Hung Chang, furnishes the following details of the voyage:

Li Hung Chang's quiet life on board ship was in contrast to his constant seeing and official entertainment in the last of the formalities through which he had to go was his embarkation in the St. Louis at Southampton. By special command Queen Victoria four of the royal commandants in waiting at Carlton House, in London, A. S. W. and the Viceroy's family, Li Hung Chang and his suite to the yacht which the American line had provided to take the Southampton. The dignity of the proceeding was in the large, heavy coaches, coachmen in scarlet livery and bay horses, but they could scarcely trot, as the conditions of the road were so bad that only ten or twelve handsome containing several three to a cab.

The special made the trip to Southampton without incident, but on arrival there at 10 o'clock Li Hung Chang was met in great by the officers of the town and escorted to the St. Louis by the Viceroy's family. The name the Mayor, attended by his officers, in blue and red uniforms and coats, carrying the mace and other insignia of their office; the American and his Consul and a dozen or so of the prominent citizens of the town. After a wait of a few minutes, caused by Li Hung Chang's staff, to speak to Miss Gordon, the sister of the Viceroy, and his suite arrived at the ship. It will be remembered that the Gordon had been a warm friend of the Viceroy—in fact, had assisted him in putting the ship on the water. In the early morning when Li Hung Chang was in the ship, to Gen. Gordon's monument in Trafalgar square and after making the true Oriental trip, the ship was decorated with wreaths.

EMBARCING FOR OUR SHORE.

Li Hung Chang was borne aloft to the deck of the ship, through a dense crowd lined each side of the walk. In his own chair brought with him from China. It is a beautiful chair, the one he had ordered in red plush and resting on two large wheels, about six feet long, which act as a bar. When the gangplank was reached the attendants who were carrying the carefully lowered it to the ground, got the "bargees," or leather shoulder straps, and the carriers used to carry the sailors, who carried the Viceroy up the plank to the main drawing room, where the Mayor and officers were waiting, and where he was received by Capt. Handle of the St. Louis.

As the ship left the dock salutes were fired by the Royal English ships anchored in the harbor. The United States cruiser Minneapolis ran up the Chinese flag, and, with officers crew drawn up on deck, flashed out, first the port and then from the starboard gun salute of seventeen guns.

Li Hung Chang, who had been so long with interest and appeared to be greatly pleased.

HERE IS THE MOTHER OF MODERN CHINA.

As the ship started down the Solent, the Viceroy passed the Isle of Wight. Li took a survey on the deck. Over six feet in height, with a solid, broad figure, and movements slow, from age or dignity, or both, he seemed in an imposing and imperial personality. His head is round and well shaped, shaven except for the exception of a mass of black hair at the back, from which proceed a wiry pigtail, extending below his neck. He has a large, grayish moustache and keeps prominent cheek bones so high that large, low are formed on each side of his face.

Li Hung Chang's dress on board ship was merely plain—a tunic of brown and a sage blue plush, light blue trousers under gathered into the usual Chinese slippers, thick springy soles, and a black silk skull which he never takes off on public work.

The red silk crown-like ornament at the top of his head, however, has no practical value; in fact, the only thing that would distinguish him from others in the embassy, so far as dress concerned, is the pin he wears in the front part of it—about one inch square and set with a large pearl at least three-quarters of an inch in diameter, surrounded by eight diamonds.

LI'S COSTLY MEALS.

During the trip Li did not spend much of time on deck. He ate in his own state food prepared by five of his own cooks which cost about thirty dollars per day. With him from China came two personal servants, all "very expensive," as the chief said. To be sure, about ten of the embassy had a table to themselves in the main saloon and appeared to delight in chicken orzo and American cooked rice. But when Li appeared he was most affable. He held court on sofas on deck and in the drawing room where he talked with various passengers. The conversation was carried on through a tongue interpreter, as Li Hung Chang speaks his mother tongue only, but he often appeared to understand parts of what was said—and sometimes he would even correct a word or two of the interpreter's English or put in a word left out.

The conversation usually took the form of "interviews." Indeed, if Li Hung Chang did not succeed as a Viceroy he would have made an ideal newspaper reporter. One morning when on deck he called a little child to come up and, taking her on his knee in the most fatherly way, asked the inevitable question, "How are you?" which has bothered the English people so much. It seems that in China, as elsewhere, children are taught to ask questions and its usual complement, "What is your name?" are the politest and most graceful forms that a conversation with a newly made acquaintance can take.

Another time the conversation was on Chinese education of women. Li Hung Chang told women with whom he was talking that women in China received no mental training at all. Between the ages of 6 and 7 a course of instruction in housekeeping and household industry was begun and continued till marriage. After that they were confined to their domestic duties.

On Thursday morning Senator Daniel Baughman talked with Li Hung Chang. The senator asked the Viceroy had asked many questions concerning the relation to the United States Government. It differed from and how it resembled the European Governments, what the pay and other duties of a Senator were, how chosen and what time, and so on, ad infinitum.

"Indeed," said the Senator, "his questioning seemed to indicate a very acute mind and an ability to quickly select the most important points."

HIS INTERVIEWS AND HIS INTERVIEWED.

THE EVENING NEWS man had an audience with Li Hung Chang Thursday evening. Frederick M. Mark, one of the dictators to the emperor, introduced him and acted as the interpreter. When

Life

Has few pleasures for those who are writhing with disease, but hope and joy return when health and strength are restored.

Hood's

Sarsaparilla